
REMARKS

This amendment is a full and timely response to the Office Action dated March 4, 2003, the period for response being extended through a two-month Request for Extension of Time filed concurrently herewith. By this amendment, Applicants have amended the title to read "Image Input Device for obtaining 2-D and 3-D Images with a linear sensor". Claims 1-13 are pending.

Objection to Title

The title was objected to for allegedly being non-descriptive. As noted above, Applicants have amended the title to read "Image Input Device for obtaining 2-D and 3-D Images with a linear sensor." Applicants submit that this amendment addresses and remedies the issues raised in the Office Action. Thus, Applicants respectfully requests that the objection to the title be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 4, and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Ochi*, U.S. Patent No. 6,426,776 and *Mihara*, U.S. Patent No. 5,671,080. Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable *Ochi*, *Mihara*, and *Jones*, U.S. Patent No. 5,993,077. Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Ochi*, *Mihara*, and *Kashitani*, U.S. Patent No. 5,757,518. Claims 6, 8, 9, 12, and 13 were rejected as unpatentable over *Ochi*. Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Ochi* and *Mihara*. Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Ochi*, *Mihara*, and *Jones*. Claim 11 was rejected as unpatentable over *Ochi*, *Mihara*, and *Kashitani*.

Applicants have enclosed a Rule 131 declaration of prior invention from the named inventor to over come at least the primary reference *Ochi*, which has a filing date of March 16, 1998. In the declaration, the inventor declares that the subject matter of claim 1-13 was reduced to practice prior to March 16, 1998. To corroborate the date of completion of the invention, Applicant has provided a copy of an invention report and a sworn translation of the same. The enclosed invention report, which includes details of the invention and associated drawings, was

evaluated by persons other than the inventor prior to March 16, 1998, as indicated by the numerous date stamps therein.

In addition, Applicant has enclosed a Rule 131 declaration of prior invention from a third party, who declares bearing witness to the completion of the invention report prior to March 16, 1998.

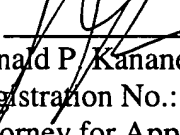
Based on the foregoing discussion, Applicant submits that at least the primary reference *Ochi* has been antedated by the enclosed declaration. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. §103 should be withdrawn, and these claims allowed.

Conclusion

Based on at least the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 1-13 are allowable, and this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application. In the event the Examiner has any comments or suggestions for placing the application in even better form, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Dated: July 16, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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In the event additional fees are necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 180013 for any such fees; and applicants hereby petition for any needed extension of time.